Frigate Alliance Boston Harbour Decr. 16th 17[illegible]

I do hereby certify, that M^r. William Bell bro[ther]
to Capt^t Thomas Bell of Philadelphia, came on bo[ard]
the Alliance frigate, while lying at the Isle De Groix [illegible]
on the 7th July last past, with a number of letters, an[d]
gave them to Capt^t. Landais, then commander of said fri[gate]
requesting he would take care of them among which he
found one directed to himself. Capt^t. Landais asked M^r. [illegible]
who this letter came from? M^r. Bell replied from M^r. Moylan
Capt^t. Landais then said he would receive no letters from M^r. Moylan
~~Capt^t~~ and desired he would send it back to him again,
M^r. Bell then asked if he would give him a certificate on
the back of the letter that he would not receive it, Capt^t.
Landais answered he would not. As I was present when all
this happened, M^r. Bell asked me if I would certify on the
back of the letter, that Capt^t. Landais would not receive it.
I answered yes, and went down to the Wardroom and gave
a certificate agreeable to his desire: but I never heard
M^r. Bell tell captain Landais that it came from D^r.
Franklin, nor do I remember of D^r. Franklin's name
being mentioned by either, or any thing of Stores for
the United States to be taken in. The above I am
ready to testify before any authority when called upon.

M Parke Cap: Mar:

Admiralty Office Jany 6. 781

A true Copy

John Brown Sec^y

Written by William Ellery

RW 110(6)(1)

Honble
Saml Adams

Congreſs

admiralty

Rw 1066(2)

MS.Ch.E.8.51